

# Maryland Youth Advisory Council Meeting Minutes – 9/6/2014

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Maryland Youth Advisory Council  
c/o Governor's Office for Children  
301 West Preston St., Suite 1502,  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Senator Roger Manno, *Co-Chair*  
Delegate John A. Olszewski, Jr., *Co-Chair*  
Christina Drushel Williams, *Co-Chair*

Gayon Sampson, *Co-Chair*  
Kennard Wallace, *Vice-Chair*  
Likhitha Butchireddygar, *Secretary*

## **General Meeting September 6, 2014**

**Baltimore County Arbutus Library  
855 Sulphur Spring Road, Arbutus, MD 21227**

### **In Attendance**

#### Council Members:

Abigail King  
Alisha Desai  
Alison Smith  
Allie Lowy  
Allison Wachen  
Anna Selbrede  
Brandon Wharton  
Camille Kirsch  
Carly Weetman  
Christian Hooker  
Curtis Swanson  
Daniel Grossman  
David Gevarter  
Dawnya Johnson  
Eric Zhao  
Gabrielle Nelson  
Gayon Sampson  
Grace Hageman

Ian McGrory  
Ifetayo Kitwala  
Inuri Abeysekara  
Jamilah Silver  
Joe Coale  
Joshua Becker  
Kendall Hamlin  
Kennard Wallace  
Likhitha Butchireddygar  
Maggie Chen  
Matthew Saxton  
Medha Reddy  
Michael Keffler  
Nicholas Schmitz  
Nihinlolu Fatinikun  
Noelle Dayal  
Omisa Jinsi  
Raisa Rauf  
Randi Williams  
Reines Maliksi

Sam Choi  
Sareana Kimia  
Sheila Pierre-Louis  
Shreya Nalubola  
Stacey Garcia  
Sydney Young  
Thorne Lindsey  
Viswanath Gorti  
Zachary McGee

#### Co-Chairs:

Christina Drushel Williams  
Michael Hawkins  
LaWanda Edwards  
(representing Sen. Manno)

#### Guests:

Rich Harris

### **Overview of MYAC and Member Responsibilities**

- Reviewed the general history of MYAC and appointment process.
- Examined from which counties MYAC member came (disparities and successes).
- Reviewed the role and responsibilities, by-laws and code-of-conduct for the Maryland Youth Advisory Council. For copies of these materials please see attached documents:
  - MYAC overview presentation
  - By-laws and code-of-conduct

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- Photo release form
- 2014 Annual Report
- Members were asked to read and sign the code-of-conduct agreement and review the photo consent form to be filled out by members over the age of 18, or parents if member is under the age of 18.

## **Overview of Legislative Process**

- Richard Harris from Department of Legislative Services talked to MYAC about how the general Maryland General Assembly works.
- Note: The best time to provide an opinion is during the Public Hearing within the first reading, of which there are three.
- See handout

## **Legislative Priorities Discussion and Public Hearing**

- Discussed legislative priorities from previous Council years, and include:
  - SMOB Voting Rights
  - Financial Literacy
  - School Nutrition
  - Technology in School
  - Life Skills, College and Career Readiness
- Public Forums are hosted by the Council to present the selected legislative issue, create an open and meaningful discussion about this topic between youth and decision makers, provide testimony before a panel, and allow the community to engage with the council about the issue.

## **Election Results**

See Officer Position Description Attachment

### ***Youth Co-Chair – Gayon Sampson***

- Gayon Sampson - 17
- Likhitha Butchireddygar - 16
- Randi Williams – 9
- Joseph Coale - 3

### ***Youth Vice Chair – Kennard Wallace***

- Kennard Wallace - 24
- Medha Reddy - 11
- Alessandra Lowry - 10

### ***Youth Secretary – Likhitha Butchireddygar***

- Likhitha Butchireddygar - 22
- Randi Williams – 15
- Ifetayo Kitwala - 8

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## *Youth Executive Board*

### House and Senate

Joshua Becker  
Vishwanath Gorti  
Nihinlolu Fatinikun  
Sydney Young

### Governor

Samuel Choi  
Dawnya Johnson  
Camille Kirsch  
Randi Williams

### Youth

Inuri Abeysekara  
Matthew Saxton  
Nick Schmitz  
Brandon Wharton

## *Legislative Committee Co-Chairs*

- Matthew Saxton
- Alison Smith

## *Public Awareness Committee Co-Chairs*

- Medha Reddy
- Carly Weetman

## **Committee Breakouts**

## **Meeting Adjourned**

## **Action Items**

- Sign and return Code of Conduct forms and Media Release forms.
- Members are encouraged to talk to other young people in their community, school, church, youth group, etc. about issues impacting youth today. Council members should be prepared to discuss their outreach at the next council meeting.
- Executive Board
  - Organize a way to update bylaws.
- Legislative Committee
  - Establish a system of communication.
- Public Awareness Committee
  - Establish a system of communication.

## **Next Meeting**

- Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the White Marsh Library, 8133 Sandpiper Circle, Baltimore, MD 21236.
- Agenda will focus on legislative issue discussion and next steps.